Indian Newspaper Society's demand for withdrawal of order of newsprint control

1316. SHRI RAIUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will !he Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Newspaper Society has been pressing their demand for withdrawal of newsprint control order;

(b) if so, the reasons and grounds on which such withdrawal is sought; and

(c) what is Government's response thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the Indian Newspaper Society, continuance of control on the newspaper industry is against the Policy of the Government on deregulation. They would like the Government to create a situation whereby the market forces would determine the prices of the indigenous newsprint and the import of the newsprint will be allowed, as need-based without any strings.

(c) The Government's response to such issue is consistent with its policy of safe-guarding the interest of the indigenous newsprint manufacturers as also the healthy growth of the Press. Government has to keep in mind the views of all other small and medium newspapers, who are not members of Indian Newspaper Society.

Production of Electricity in the Country

1317. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased *to* state *:*

(a) what is the break-up of average per-centage rate of electricity produced in different States of the country;

(b) what is average percentage rate of electricity lost in transit and its value in different States;

(c) what is the extent of deficit in pro-ductions in each State; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to improve the production of electricy and what are the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) State-wise Plant Load Factors of thermal power stations and extent of deficit/surplus in each State during April—October, 1992 is given in Statement-I. The State-wise details of the percentage of transmission and distribution losses for 1991-92 is given in Statement-Il.

(d) Various measures being taken for optimum utilisation of installed capacity include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant Betterment Programmes, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal, training of O&M personnel and strengthening of transmission and distribution systems. As a result the All India Plant Load Factor increased from 52.3% during April 91—October 91 to 53.9% during April 92—October 92.

Statement-I

State-wise Plant Load Factor and Shortfall-Surplus in Energy generation during Apl. — Oct, 1992

State/System	Shorftall (+)/ Surplus (+) MW	Thermal Plant Load Factor (%)
1	2	3
BBMB	(+)1098	
Delhi	(+)632	67.8
J & K	(+)100	
Himachal Pradesh	(+)61	
Haryana	(+)65	48.4